



**Our Lady of
Mount Carmel**
Wentworthville

Carmel Bulletin

Sunday 25 August 2024

21st Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year B



Reflections:

Jn 6:60-69

Difficult words

“How can you take these words seriously?” This question in the Gospel is actually a complaint about Jesus’ claim that he is food and drink, but it serves as a wry comment on the passage from Ephesians heard before the Gospel. Talk about words hard to endure!

Be subordinate to one another out of reverence for Christ. Wives should be subordinate to their husbands as to the Lord. For the husband is head of his wife just as Christ is head of the church, he himself the savior of the body. As the church is subordinate to Christ, so wives should be subordinate to their husbands in everything. Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ loved the church and handed himself over for her ... husbands should love their wives as their own bodies.

“Does it shake your faith?” It probably shakes many of us. Subordination and reverence, first of all, are not prominent nouns in our contemporary lexicon of privileged words.

There may be suggestions of male dominance in our second reading today, but this conclusion collapses from internal contradiction. More troublesome yet, “wives should be submissive to their husbands.” This sounds like fingernails on a blackboard. Feels like sandpaper on wounds. Tastes like abuse. Smells like patriarchy. Submission has been the problem. Why pose it as a solution?

Clearly there is a hierarchical context for Paul’s words to the Ephesians. Christ is compared to the husband, the church to the wife. The man is the head; the woman the body. This

analogy has been acclaimed by some, who want to legitimate the privileged imaging of the male for Christ. But it has been roundly condemned by others, who see it as a devaluation of women. Both positions are worth examining, but what is the real theme of the Ephesians text? “Subordination” and “reverence” are its context. All the rest is application. We must all defer to and revere one another. Then Paul provides applications that may or may not be historically bound.

But it is subordination we have trouble with, “submission.” It sticks in the craw. Why should any of us have to submit to another or put someone else first? What is worse, Paul seems to commend obedience only to the woman. He tells the wives to be submissive. What about the men?

Well, what about them? This is what Paul says: Give yourself up for her. Love your spouse as your own body, your very self. If husbands were to hold such an attitude, it would subvert all dominance and hierarchy. Paul’s is a radical statement of equality, albeit in his own contemporary context. It is self-destroying to abuse, hurt, degrade the spouse.

The point is this: there may be suggestions of male dominance in our second reading today, but this conclusion collapses from internal contradiction. Both husband and wife are to put the other first.

What if this rankles us the most? The very idea that we must give ourselves to another, defer to another! If we love each other as we propose, we assuredly must die to ourselves. The first casualty of real commitment is the imperial ego we are so reluctant to tame.

“Decide today whom you will serve.” In marriage, as in life, we serve not only each other, but our very God, who wants of us not slavery, but the free gift of our love.

- [John Kavanaugh, SJ](#)

Parish News

Welcome to our community

This Sunday we will celebrate the sacrament of baptism of Nathan, a young boy who requested baptism at the age of 12yo, who is supported by his godparents, Joan and Prabhu, and his loving parents, Aye and Tin. Nathan and his family attended several RCIA sessions to assist him on his journey of faith and, after a period of prayer and reflection, we were able to discern a plan of support. Welcome all!

Father’s Day cards and raffle

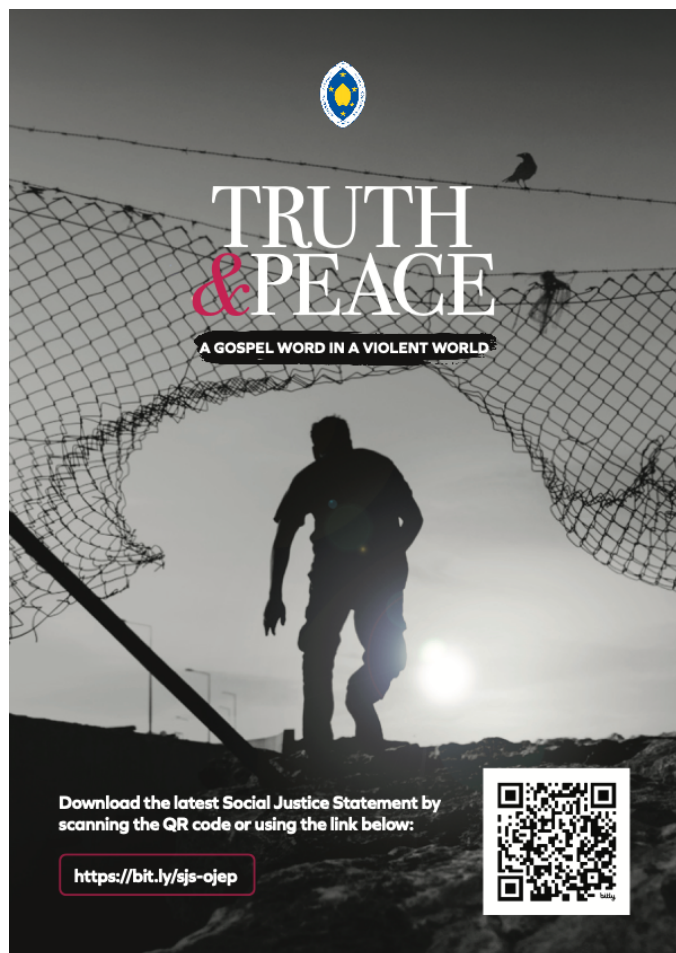
The East Timor Committee are having a Father’s Day card fundraiser for the following two weekends. Cards will be sold after every Mass during the weekend. Cards will be \$5 and with each card you are entitled to enter our draw for a Woolies Essential gift card.

1st prize = \$100 gift card.

2nd, 3rd and 4th prizes = \$50 each gift card.

Raffle will be drawn 28 August and winners will be notified by phone.

Social Justice Sunday



The Australian Catholic Bishop's Conference have just released the 2024-2025 Social Justice Statement, ***Truth and Peace: A Gospel Word in a Violent World***.

In 1963 Pope St John XXIII issued his groundbreaking Encyclical Letter, *Pacem in Terris* (Peace on Earth). At a very fraught time, it was an impassioned plea not only to the Church but to all people of goodwill for an end to war and the banning of nuclear weapons. He called for the promotion of peace founded on a commitment to the inviolable dignity of every human being. His successors have seen the devastating effect of wars and conflicts since 1963 and have repeated the same call.

The 2024 – 2025 Social Justice Statement, *Truth & Peace: A Gospel Word in a Violent World*, scrutinises the signs of our own times in the light of the Gospel, sees the violence and asks why the world is as it is and what is needed for there to be peace. It also asks the question: is peace possible? And in a world where many think peace is a mirage, the Statement puts its faith in the possibility of peace. In doing so, it looks back to *Pacem in Terris*, and looks also to Pope Francis' Encyclical Letter, *Fratelli Tutti*.

The Statement goes on to discuss how 'Peace will always seem a mirage in a post-truth world where we cannot distinguish the truth from a lie, because peace depends upon the truth and war is always based upon a lie.'

For more information, please click on QR code provided.

Father's Day Appeal next week



The third of our four yearly Diocesan Appeals will be held next weekend.

On Father's Day, we acknowledge and give prayerful thanks to all our priests who have dedicated their lives to being servants of the Gospel, for God's people.

Even in retirement, in sickness and in health, our Diocesan priests continue to carry out God's ministry without question, staying involved in parish life and doing our Father's work for as long as they are able. Their vocation never ends, and neither does our shared responsibility to support them in any way we can.

As Catholics, we are called to ensure there is always someone to care for our retired Diocesan priests and those in ill-health, just as they will always love and care for us.

Your compassionate donation to the Bishop's Father's Day Appeal cares for our Diocesan clergy's health and wellbeing during sickness and retirement. For more information or to make a donation, please visit the [Clergy Support Foundation](#) page. Just make sure you scroll down to the bottom and choose Our Lady of Mt Carmel in Wentworthville as your parish; that way, your donation will also assist our parish to meet its annual Diocesan quota.

Please pray for

Those who are sick, especially Lina Galpin, Lucy & Rosine, Rita Ientile, Vivian Sultana, Roseline Fernandez, Yolanda Gonzales, Edwin Macwan, Sharon Dolan.

Recently deceased, especially Laurell Caspersz, Doris Borg, John Weaver, Massimina 'Mina' Brattoni, Rohit Singh, Francis D'Souza, Josephine Tabone, Bernadette Stevens, Rob McMenamin, Paul Crollick, Jennifer Kelberg, Charmaine Kelberg, Baby Egan, Rachael Sumagau, Matthew Spiteri, Tony Campton, Thea Flynn, Robert Howe, Joanne Tabone, Charlie Bonnici, Duyen Tran.

Our special intentions, especially Margaret Hanlan, Marc Philip Urbano, Brian Bainy & family, Maria Pier, Leonard Close, Mercy Bhuyan, Harry William, Mary Victoria, Prince Antony, Robert Herlinger, Joyce, Tony & Antonia Cini, Mary & Frank Teuma, Michael Perez, Agnes, John & Napoleon Patacsil, Mary Delores Vella, Cam Tran, Faustina & Jacinta Pier, Michael Borg, Skelly-Lewcowicz family, Clivin family, Norman De Luca, Charlie Zammit, Charlie Sultana, Holy Souls in Purgatory, Thanksgiving to Our Lady, to the Immaculate and Sacred Heart of Jesus, to the Holy Infant of Prague, for the Church in Australia, and in honour of St Anthony and St Christopher.

Parish Finances

Thank you for your generosity

Last week's donation to the Parish: \$3555

Planned Giving (cash): \$ 940

Planned Giving (credit cards): \$ 20

Loose cash: \$ 1095

Direct Deposits: \$ 560

Tap & Go: \$ 940

Parish Online Banking: If you would like to pay fees or are able to make a donation, our online banking details are:

BSB: 067 950

Account Number: 000 00602

Account Name: Wentworthville Catholic Church

Reference: [YourSurname]DONATION NAME

What is Planned Giving?

Planned Giving is a pledge you make to assist the parish with their finances, eg, salaries, insurance, maintenance, loan repayments, liturgical resources, etc. You can choose to set-up an automated deposit from your bank account with the amount and frequency you would like to donate. Just make sure to use the banking details above. Planned Giving is a very convenient and practical method of contributing to the parish, even if it's just \$5 a week. For further details or to request a receipt, please contact Gennie, our Finance Officer, on ocarmswentyaccts@gmail.com

Fees for special Services

Please see below, a recommended guide to donations for special Services:

Wedding: \$700

Funeral: \$700

Baptism: \$50

Memorial service: \$400

Advertise with us


We are currently offering space for businesses interested in advertising with us. For further information please email us at ocarmswenty@gmail.com or phone 9631 8302.

Around the Diocese and beyond

Breaking New Ground Conference: NSW Catholic Charismatic Renewal invites you to an opportunity for personal growth and parish enrichment on 7/8 September at St John Bosco Hall in Engadine. For more information please phone Lorensz Herft on 0426 399 502, click on this [TryBooking link](#), or visit ccrnsw.org.au.

Long term overseas volunteer opportunities with *The Cagliero Project* who are seeking volunteers for departure in January 2025 to work 6-12 months with young people in Salesian communities in Samoa, Cambodia, Timor Leste, Solomon Islands and Mongolia. Applications close 31-10-24. Further information please email www.cagliero.org.au or lhichaaba@salesians.org.au

Dark to Light - an exploration on Domestic Violence: We warmly invite you to a presentation on Domestic Violence at 1.30pm on 8 Sept at the Holy Name of Mary Church Hall, Hunters Hill. This event features Livia La Rocca, a trained psychologist with 20 years of experience working with the Good Shepherd Sisters, and Nicole Yade, CEO of the Women and Girls Emergency Centre. For more information, please visit www.maristlaityaustralia.com/dark-to-light



Children's Liturgy Workshop

This evening will be for all those involved with children's liturgy in their parishes. We will cover the Diocesan Guidelines as well as any questions you may have.

THURSDAY 19TH SEPT, 7PM-8:30PM
Bishop Bede Heather Centre, 1-5 Marion Street, Blacktown

Register Lucy.Woodbury@parracatholic.org or 0460 037 795

Coming events

26 August: Bl Jacques Retouret OCarm

27 August: St Monica

28 August: St Augustine

29 August: The Passion of St John the Baptist

29 August: SVdP meet in Parish Centre at 10am

Rosters for 31 Aug & 1 Sept 2024

| MASS | ROLE | VOLUNTEER |
|----------------|-----------|---|
| 6pm (Vigil) | Reader 1 | Bob Hanna |
| | Reader 2 | Janine Hanna |
| | Communion | Anne-Marie Torrens |
| 8am | Reader 1 | Coretta Dias |
| | Reader 2 | Isabella Dias |
| | Communion | Eric Dias (Assembly) Cecilia Cotter |
| 10am | Reader 1 | Youth Minister |
| | Reader 2 | Youth Minister |
| | Communion | Marina Peter (Assembly) Skip Fernandes |
| 6pm | Reader 1 | Isa Urbano |
| | Reader 2 | Eugene Urbano |
| | Communion | Fran Sharpe |

Next week's readings

31 Aug & 1 Sep - 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year B

First Reading: Josh 24:1-2, 15-18

Second Reading: Eph 5:21-32

Gospel: Jn 6:60-69



Our Lady of Mount Carmel Wentworthville

in the care of the Carmelite Friars

We acknowledge the Darug people as the original custodians of this land and pay our respects to their elders; past, present and emerging.

Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish, together with the Diocese of Parramatta and the Carmelite Friars, are committed to safeguarding children, young people and vulnerable adults in our care and ensuring that they feel and are safe.

Connect with us

Online at www.olmcwenty.org.au

On [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#) @olmcwenty

Email ocarmswenty@gmail.com

Parish Office

Open Monday to Thursday, 8:30am to 4:30pm

Parish Office is closed Friday, Saturday and Sunday

Phone 9631 8302

Parish Priest: Fr. Januario Pinto, O.Carm

Assistant Priest: Fr. Albino Dos Santos, O.Carm

In Community: Fr. Anthony Scerri, O.Carm,

Fr. Paul Gurr, O.Carm (Carmelite Prior),

Fr. Wayne Stanhope, O.Carm (at Jamberoo),

Fr. John Powell, O.Carm (in Aged Care)

Parish Secretary: Paola Yévenes

Finance Officer: Gennie Cosgrove

Our Lady of Mt Carmel Primary School

Principal: Olimpia Pirovic

Phone: 8832 1100

Liturgy times

Sunday Masses

Saturday: 6pm (Vigil)

Sunday: 8am, 10am, 6pm

Weekday Masses

Monday - Thursday and Saturday: 9am

Friday: 9:15am (except on the first Friday of the month)

Reconciliation

Saturday: after the 9am Mass

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

Saturday: 8am

Rosary Group

Monday - Friday: 8am

Saturday: after the 9am Mass

Anointing within Mass

First Friday of the month at 9am Mass followed by a shared

Morning Tea

Baptisms, Weddings and Funerals

On request

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